

§ 256.13

payment from the Judgment Fund. The request for payment must be on the appropriate Judgment Fund payment request forms.

(b) *Awards to minors.* For awards to claimants that are minors, the submitting agency must include in its submission to FMS documentation establishing that the payee, if different from the claimant, is legally authorized to act on behalf of the claimant. Documentation of court approvals (Federal, State, or foreign) that are legally required for payment must be submitted along with the request for payment from the Judgment Fund. State law typically specifies when money awards to minors require the appointment of a guardian. Agencies must list the appropriate controlling state law citation on the payment request forms.

(c) *Awards of costs.* For awards of costs, the submitting agency must include a copy of the “bill of costs” or the Court’s order awarding costs. Only those items expressly enumerated under the cost statute, 28 U.S.C. 1920, or other governing statute specific to the award, are payable from the Judgment Fund.

(d) *Payments to multiple claimants/payees in a single award.* For awards where multiple payees are to receive separate payments, the submitting agency must complete separate Judgment Fund Vouchers for Payment for each payee. When there are multiple claimants in an administrative tort matter, each claimant’s award must independently exceed the mandatory \$2,500 threshold in order for payment to be made from the Judgment Fund. A claimant’s threshold can be satisfied by combining amounts awarded for personal and property damage under the FTCA.

(e) *Awards of back pay.* For awards of back pay where the judgment does not specifically state the principal amounts to be paid and withholdings to be made, the submitting agency must include a spreadsheet indicating precisely which amounts are allocable to net pay, deductions, and interest.

31 CFR Ch. II (7–1–08 Edition)

§ 256.13 Are agencies required to supply a taxpayer identification number (TIN) when submitting a request for payment?

Yes, agencies must include a valid TIN on all requests for payments, unless the situation meets one of the exceptions listed in the FMS TIN Policy, which may be found on the FMS Web site at: <http://www.fms.treas.gov/tinpolicy/regulations.html>. For an individual, the TIN is the Social Security Number. For a business, the TIN is the Employer Identification Number issued by IRS. The TIN provided must be for the party entitled to the payment, whether or not that party is the payee. Failure to include a required TIN results in an incomplete request for payment.

§ 256.14 What happens if I submit an incomplete request for payment?

FMS may return, without action, any request for payment that is incomplete. If a request for payment is returned for lack of necessary information, the submitting agency may resubmit the request for payment once all the required information is available.

Subpart C—Debt Collection

§ 256.20 How does an agency indicate that a debt is to be offset from a Judgment Fund payment?

The submitting agency must identify on the appropriate Judgment Fund form any known debt owed to the United States that FMS is expected to collect by setoff against the award. Such a debt will be offset pursuant to the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3728.

§ 256.21 Are Judgment Fund payments offset to collect administrative debts?

Yes, separate and apart from its role as administrator of the Judgment Fund, FMS, in its capacity as disbursing official for the executive branch, offsets Judgment Fund payments to collect delinquent, nontax Federal debts through the Treasury Offset Program (TOP). This rule applies only to the setoff of Judgment Fund payments prior to payment certification, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3728, and not to disbursing official offsets